

REMARKS

Please cancel Claims 5, 12, 14, 16-18, 22, 24 and 26-28 without prejudice. Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13, 15, 19-21, 23, 25 and 29-30 are pending. Claims 1-4, 7-8, 11, 13, 15, 21, 23 and 25 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to for the reason cited in the instant Office Action. The abstract is amended to address the objection.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because element 250 of Figure 2 is not mentioned in the specification. The specification is amended to include mention of element 250.

102 Rejections

The instant Office Actions states that Claims 1-3, 6-7, 9-11, 13, 15, 19-21, 23, 25 and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Rozzi (U.S. Patent No. 6,867,884). The Applicant has reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submits that the present invention as recited in Claims 1-3, 6-7, 9-11, 13, 15, 19-21, 23, 25 and 29-30 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Rozzi.

Applicant respectfully submits that Rozzi does not show or suggest that “placement of each of said third color dots is subject to a first condition that prevents a dot of said third color from being printed at a location at which both a dot of said first color and a dot of said second color have been placed” as recited in independent Claim 1 (emphasis added). Applicant respectfully submits that Rozzi does not show or suggest such a condition.

Applicant also respectfully submits that Rozzi does not show or suggest a condition governing the overlapping of dots of two different colors “wherein a dot of said third color and a dot of said first color are both printable at a particular location provided there is at least 100 percent fill at said particular location and provided a first modified intensity value of said dot of said third color is greater than a second modified intensity value of said dot of said first color, said first and second modified intensity values comprising respective first and second intensity values that were modified using error diffusion” as recited in independent Claim 11.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that Rozzi does not show or suggest a condition governing the overlapping of dots of two different colors “wherein a dot of said third color and a dot of said first color are both printable at a particular location provided there is at least 100 percent fill at said particular location, provided a first modified intensity value of said dot of said first color is greater than a second modified intensity value of said dot of said third color, wherein said first and second modified intensity values comprise respective first and second intensity values that have been modified using error diffusion, provided the sum of said first and second modified intensity values is greater than a first threshold and provided the difference between said first and second modified intensity values is less than a second threshold” as recited in independent Claim 21.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Rozzi does not show or suggest the embodiments of the present claimed invention recited in independent Claims 1, 11 and 21, and that these claims are considered patentable over Rozzi. Because Claims 2-3, 6-7, 9-10, 13, 15, 19-20, 23, 25 and 29-30 depend from either Claim 1, 11 or 21 and contain additional

limitations that are patentably distinguishable over Rozzi, these claims are also considered patentable over Rozzi. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting Claims 1-3, 6-7, 9-11, 13, 15, 19-21, 23, 25 and 29-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is traversed.

103 Rejections

The instant Office Actions states that Claims 4 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rozzi in view of Velde et al. ("Velde," U.S. Patent No. 6,637,851). The Applicant has reviewed the cited references and respectfully submits that the present invention as recited in Claims 4 and 8 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Rozzi and Velde, alone or in combination.

Claims 4 and 8 are dependent on independent Claim 1. As presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that Rozzi does not show or suggest the present invention as recited in Claim 1.

Applicant further submits that Velde does not overcome the shortcomings of Rozzi. Specifically, Applicant respectfully submits that Velde (alone or in combination with Rozzi) does not show or suggest that "placement of each of said third color dots is subject to a first condition that prevents a dot of said third color from being printed at a location at which both a dot of said first color and a dot of said second color have been placed" as recited in Claim 1 (emphasis added).

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Rozzi and Velde (alone or in combination) do not show or suggest the present claimed invention recited in independent Claim 1, and as such Claim 1 is allowable over Rozzi and Velde. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the basis for

rejecting Claims 4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed, as Claims 4 and 8 are dependent on an allowable base claim.

Conclusions

In light of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejected claims. Based on the arguments presented above, Applicant respectfully asserts that Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13, 15, 19-21, 23, 25 and 29-30 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicant respectfully solicits allowance of these claims.

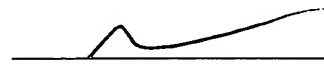
Applicant has reviewed the references cited but not relied upon. Applicant did not find these references to show or suggest the present claimed invention: U.S. Patent No. 6,483,606 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0011794.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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